

## Fugitive Safe Surrender

by Peter O'Boyle, Public Information Director

Fugitive Safe Surrender (FSS) is a national fugitive initiative led by the United States Marshals Service in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies. Held over four days in Columbia, the operation resulted in the surrender of 389 fugitives, including 28 PPP absconders. Since its inception in 2005, the initiative has resulted in the safe surrender of more than 13,000 fugitives nationally. Of those who surrendered, less than 3% were taken to jail the day of surrender. Most either had their case adjudicated that day or continued to another date. In either case, their warrant was cleared up and they were able to do things like seek employment or renew a driver's license without fear of being arrested. FSS does not offer amnesty. Individuals appeared before a court to answer to the charges against them. In cooperation with the program, the SC Employment Security Commission and the SC Department of Motor Vehicles were on site to offer job counseling services and advice on how to renew driver's licenses respectively.

Fugitive Safe Surrender is designed to make

communities safer. For every fugitive that chooses to voluntarily and peacefully surrender, law enforcement officers and residents face one less potentially dangerous confrontation on the streets. Those who chose not to surrender were subject to large scale fugitive sweeps in both Richland and Lexington counties. Individuals arrested in the sweeps were booked into jails for court hearings. A total of 15 absconders were arrested by PPP in the follow-up sweep.

In total, 18 different organizations have joined forces to make FSS-Columbia a reality. Those agencies/entities are: the United States Marshals Service, Bible Way Church of Atlas Road, the Lexington and Richland County Clerk's Offices, Magistrates Offices, and Public Defenders, Eleventh Circuit (Lexington) Solicitor's Office, Fifth Circuit (Richland) Solicitor's Office, Lexington and Richland County Sheriff's Departments, SC Court Administration, SC Department of Motor Vehicles, SCDPPPS, SC Employment Security Commission, SC Judicial Department and SLED.



**(l-r): Network Analysts, Erik Murrah and Brian Miller (ITSS), Special Operations Chief Mike Nichols and Regional Director Robert Mitchell participated in warrant processing at Operation Fugitive Safe Surrender in July.**

### SCDPPPS FUGITIVE SAFE SURRENDER PARTICIPANTS

Lisa Baker	Lexington	Ellen Haire	Richland	Crystal Owens	Richland
Stacy Bartkovich	Richland	Betsy Hegler	Lexington	Justin Price	Lexington
Dwight Boatwright	Lexington	Tara Horton	Richland	Randy Raybon	Lexington
Crystal Boyd	Richland	Noel Husbands	Richland	Don Rentiers	Lexington
Rusty Branham	Richland	Lorenzo Jones	Lexington	Rusty Rentz	Lexington
Randy Bumgarner	Special Ops	Dan Lake	Lexington	Eugene Rodillo	Richland
Cathy Cooper	Richland	Sal Lugos	Lexington	Ronnie Shealy	Lexington
Cheryl Cooper	Richland	Billie Lundy	Lexington	Jackie Smith	Richland
Natasha Days	Richland	Marc McCarson	Lexington	Jeremy Smith	Lexington
Matt Deas	Lexington	Daniella McMillan	Richland	Chris Stepp	Region 3
Joel Dennis	Lexington	Jennifer Meador	Richland	Monica Thomas	Lexington
Danny Drafts	Special Ops	Alan Miller	Lexington	Lloyd Turner	Lexington
Janice Dyal	Lexington	Brian Miller	ITSS	Lasheika VanDyke	Richland
Clif Fordham	Richland	Robert Mitchell	Region 1	Stacy Weil	Richland
Doug Fordham	Special Ops	Erik Murrah	ITSS	Michelle Whitlock	Lexington
Stephanie Garrick	Richland	Duane Newsome	Richland	Sandy Young	Lexington
Michael Glover	Richland	Mike Nichols	Special Ops	Quintus Young	Richland
Toyya Gunter	Richland	Mike Orred	Lexington		



As we approach our national election in November, the themes that we are often reminded of through discussions with friends on issues, spirited debates among colleagues and family members, and the many promotional advertisements for candidates revolve around our sense of community and pride in our country. Regardless of anyone's individual political affiliation, personal beliefs or particular opinions about the issues of the day, United States citizenship has profound meaning and signifies something special to each American. It is a privilege to live in a country wherein our personal freedoms and beliefs are inherently valued and fiercely protected by the citizenry and its leaders, and where we are free to live and work according to our own set of values, beliefs, interests and talents.

As I reviewed the information included in this issue of *The Informer*, many of those same themes emerged as I turned the pages. In this issue, we highlight a number of our county initiatives which are PPP's link to communities around the state. In each edition of the newsletter, our goal is

to highlight one county office in particular to showcase successful local activities. We also want to include other articles and photographs which demonstrate the ability of our staff to implement innovative local programs toward the goal of sharing and inspiring new ideas among our offices. Articles in this issue underscore programs that contribute to the public safety of South Carolina's communities and celebrate the significant achievements of our colleagues in the state's criminal justice system. In addition to office and program highlights, we continue to acknowledge the personal sacrifice made by those serving in the United States armed forces and welcome those staff members who have been deployed back home.

This year's hurricane season has been devastating for many people in states that have been impacted so far by catastrophic weather, and the season is not yet at an end. In addition to PPP's involvement in readiness activities during hurricanes and other emergency situations, individual staff members make significant contributions. We all know that giving blood can literally be the difference between life and death when

disaster strikes. In this issue of the newsletter, we salute PPP's heroes who regularly donate blood in an effort to save lives during times of crisis, as well as to meet the on-going need. I am inspired daily by our staff's strong connection to their communities in every county statewide.



As we move through the last few months of 2008, one of our biggest hurdles will be continuing to fully support our systems and services in light of budget cuts. While the picture seems bleak and will definitely present formidable challenges, our workforce is resilient and demonstrates determination in performing our work even in the face of ever-increasing mandates to accomplish more with less. I am proud of our Department's successes and of the commitment of our staff statewide to seeing that the job **always** gets done. Keep up the outstanding work!

Sam Glover

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**SC Information and Intelligence Center (SCIIC) Unveiling:** Director Glover and other PPP representatives participated in the SLED press conference on August 19<sup>th</sup> to officially unveil improvements to the SC Information and Intelligence Center. The SCIIC will be an operational resource for public safety agencies statewide and provide immediate assistance to officers and partnering organizations by searching records, databases, and performing analytical services. The SCIIC is a 24/7 operational center. The PPP GPS Operations Center (GOC) is co-located within the SCIIC to augment PPP activities statewide related to the supervision of offenders in the community using Global Positioning Satellite technology.



Joined by SLED Chief Reggie Lloyd, SCDPPPS Director Sam Glover addressed the media and assembled law enforcement officials at the unveiling of the improved SC Information and Intelligence Center.



Rebecca Raybon, Program Coordinator for GPS and Sex Offender Management, tracks a sex offender on a computer monitor at the SCIIC. SCDPPPS uses GPS technology to track approximately 200 sex offenders throughout the state 24 hours a day.



## *Governor Visits SCDPPPS Greenville Office*



Governor Mark Sanford visited several state law enforcement agencies in Florence, Charleston and Greenville recently to urge state lawmakers to not cut all agencies equally, and instead to make targeted cuts in the face of declining state revenues. Here he spoke to reporters from the Greenville County PPP Office. After the news conference, the Governor toured the office and met with the staff.

## **C.O.D.E.**

### **Connecting Our Deployed Employees**

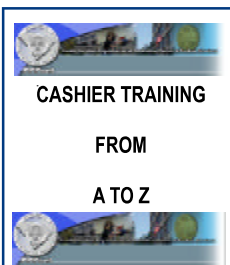
By Jodi Gallman, Director of Community Affairs

This month, we celebrate the safe return of *all* of our deployed employees. H. A. Blackwell and Hardy Paschal have resumed their duties with enthusiasm and excitement. Antonio Vaught, though stateside, is completing his tour of duty. This Department "round of applause" is for a job WELL DONE!



## *Cashier Training 2008*

by Susan DeMoya, Administrative Services



Administration is pleased to announce that Cashier Training 2008 is underway. Accounts Receivable, the Helpdesk and Trust Accounting have teamed up for this all-day class instructed at Central.

Cashiers need to provide our clients with service and expertise when dealing with a multi-

tude of financial transactions. This training will assist participants to gain the skills that are needed to be an effective cashier. It is a complete refresher course and is mandatory for cashier recertification. Cashiers will learn about their role as a cashier, how to handle and process transactions, how to create and maintain accounts, and how to handle cash and balance at the end of the day. Also included in this course will be OMS and agency procedural updates.



**Trust Accounting Supervisor Susan DeMoya (Administrative Services) reviews OMS Accounts set-up procedures during the Cashier Training class in August.**

Each participant will receive a manual entitled ***Cashier Training From A-Z*** that will be a useful tool for easy reference. Be on the lookout for notification when this manual will be available on the PPP Intranet.

# Highlighting Chesterfield County

By AIC Jerry Hamberis, Agent Tony Davidson, Agent Mark Funderburk, Agent Andy Rivers, and HSS Sheila Funderburk

When the Chesterfield County Office was named the 2008 Small Office of the Year, it was the culmination of years of hard work by the staff there. AIC Jerry Hamberis arrived in 2006 from Florence County and he made this one of his goals for the office which last won the award in 1990. He soon discovered that the Chesterfield staff shared the same philosophy and vision toward the supervision of offenders. There is a belief in taking the time with each offender to determine what obstacles exist to the offender successfully completing supervision. Swift intervention and clearly communicating expectations of offender compliance are the basis of the Chesterfield Office's philosophy. Staff members know their jobs and are cross-trained in the duties of their co-workers. Without a doubt, having an experienced and seasoned staff is a key to success!

The following is a summary of initiatives which illustrate that Chesterfield County has excelled in the work they do every day:

**Drug Court:** The Drug Court Program has been used as an additional sanction prior to revocation. Chesterfield has had cases that were "revoked" into drug court, basically meaning that offenders are removed from probation and the full revocation is suspended pending completion of Drug Court. This has given the office an alternative middle court approach toward revocations and allows the Agents to focus on more serious and violent offenders. Currently there are 40 offenders in the program.

**YOA Offenders:** The Chesterfield Office led Medium and Small Offices in the number of Youthful Offenders that were early terminated in 2007. The office has shifted its philosophy with this population from reacting severely to violations, to working closely with the offender's families and fully utilizing case management options. This, in turn, has increased their success rate with this population, and actually decreased the work load in that they are slowing the YOA revocation revolving door in Chesterfield County.

**Vocational Rehabilitation:** VR

Counselor Dena Jordan goes above and beyond the call and is dedicated in her Department's Mission. She follows up with our office in person, two to three times a week on the progress of offenders. In fact, she is so good, that the Palmetto Center allows her to fill any cancellations with our offenders. This goes a long way in speeding up the inpatient drug counseling process from weeks to days. According to VR, the Chesterfield Office has one of the highest referral rates for offices this size.

**Chesterfield County Coordinating Council:** AIC Hamberis participates with the Chesterfield County Coordinating Council which is moderated by SC House of Representative Ted Vick. This is a monthly meeting of various service agencies in Chesterfield County including Alcohol and Drug, DJJ, DSS, VR and Adult Education to exchange ideas and discuss programs.

**Law Enforcement:** The office is fortunate to have very close working relationships with law enforcement partners including the Chesterfield County Sheriff's Office, Pageland and Cheraw Police Departments and the U.S. Marshals Service. AIC Hamberis shares that "The Sheriff has been very gracious to our office by donating equipment and offering training to our staff. The transportation section of our county jail has also gone above and beyond in assisting with extraditions, transports to the Restitution Center and the Palmetto Center." Cooperation with the U.S. Marshals Service has provided the Chesterfield Office with access to various databases and manpower assistance in order to track absconders, reducing from 45 absconded warrants in 2005 to 15 as of July 2008. Agent Mark Funderburk, Agent



Posing in front of the Chesterfield County Courthouse sign are (from left): Agent Andy Rivers, Agent Mark Funderburk, Agent Tony Davidson, Summer Intern Octavia Jowers; HSS Sheila Funderburk, and AIC Jerry Hamberis.

Tony Davidson and AIC Hamberis are Special Deputy Marshals.

The beauty of a small office is the close knit bonds formed with co-workers and their families. The office finds time to give back to the community, and works hard to promote a "family first" atmosphere. Staff members work hard to cover for each other during school plays, outings, or when children are sick. Speaking for the entire office, AIC Hamberis conveys that "It is always a pleasure to come to work in such a cooperative work environment. Everyone enjoys the work they do and works hard to make a difference in the community. We try hard to make the next day better and safer for our offenders and the public."



Agent Rivers and AIC Hamberis review the county's Most Wanted board.



# Criminal Justice Academy Graduates



**August 15<sup>th</sup>** – Graduating from the SC Criminal Justice Academy and joining their assigned counties were (from left): Regional Director Chris Stepp; Grant Garmon, Sumter; Edwina Greene and Caleb Guttedge, Richland; Carla Oglesby, Anderson; and Regional Director Robert Mitchell.



**July 25<sup>th</sup>** – Brett M. Schoem graduated from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and will serve in the Charleston County office. Pictured are (from left): Regional Director Schwann Scott, Schoem and Charleston Agent in Charge Lynne Moldenhauer.



**June 27<sup>th</sup>** – Graduating from the Criminal Justice Academy are (from left): Regional Director Schwann Scott; Jose G. Alvarez, Charleston County; Justin L. Cohen, York; and Regional Director Clift Howle.



Agent Adam P. Davis of Anderson County was the recipient of the J.P. Strom Award for the June 6<sup>th</sup> graduating class. This award is given to the student who obtains the highest overall academic average, with a minimum of 96%, including the successful completion of all performance tests.



**June 6<sup>th</sup>** – Regional Director Schwann Scott (left), joins new Agents Michelle Q. Rice of Orangeburg County and Adam P. Davis of Anderson after completing their studies at the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy. Regional Director Robert Mitchell (right) was also on hand for the graduation.



# National Probation, Parole & Community Supervision Week

Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week was observed within PPP central and field offices in July (recognized nationally July 13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>). The Department held activities in offices statewide to recognize the significant contributions of Probation and Parole Agents to South Carolina's public safety and to extend appreciation to Probation and Parole professionals for their commitment and diligence throughout the year.

## Ice Cream, Anyone?

Legal Service's Marguerite Brown gives service with a smile as she scoops up a cone for PPP Director Sam Glover and staff from the SC Continuum of Care office during Central Office's Ice Cream Social.



## Charleston Celebrates PP&CS Week

Charleston had planned to cook-out, but Tropical Storm Cristobal cancelled their outdoor picnic lunch. But not to be undone, they grilled in the office instead. No rain on their parade, and nothing stands in the way of Charleston personnel and food!!!! (From left) are: Kescia Holmes, Nikesha Jacobs, Curtis Baker, Ruben Potts, Travis Green, and James Bingley.

## Lancaster Cools Off

The Lancaster office celebrated PP&CS Week by visiting the Fort Jackson water park. (From left to right are): Jena Cauthen (Intern) Garrett Ingram (friend), Jennifer Brice, Lynn Oliver, Tim Williams, Richard Weiss. In back it is Brian Gallagher and Lee Williams (son of Tim Williams) and in front is Ed Lockhart and LaQuandra Sistare.



## ***Smoking Area Restricted at Central***

**Submitted by the Administrative Services Division**

In the previous year, a committee has been in place to address the overall appearance of 2221 Devine Street in Columbia. Central Office is housed along with three other state agencies in the building. The Department shares concerns at least twice annually about the building safety, appearance, and maintenance.

Serious concern has been voiced on several occasions by all tenants of the building in reference to individuals smoking near or in front of the doors to the building. In addition to these complaints, agency heads have received requests to address this matter by establishing a smoking policy for the Devine Street facility. Most public, county and state buildings provide designated smoking areas for the public and their employees. We believe establishing like guidelines will provide the balance and fairness for those employees wishing to smoke and those who do not wish to come in contact with tobacco smoke when entering or exiting the building.

The front entrance will be designated as a no smoking area.

The rear entrance (facing the parking lot) will have signage that reads as follows:

**"NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET OF THIS ENTRANCE/EXIT"**

An area has been designated for persons wishing to smoke at the lower level of the parking garage. Cigarette butt containers are available to prevent littering and to ensure safety when extinguishing cigarettes.

Thank you for your cooperation with the building policy at Central.



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## **Blue Coat has Arrived**

**Submitted by LaShunda Corley, ITSS/Fiscal Management**



Blue Coat is a new web monitoring appliance that has been installed by our Agency. It will replace our previous web monitoring system, SurfControl. Blue Coat serves a number of purposes, most importantly allowing ITSS to block web sites which may be inappropriate, potentially harmful or cause excessive volume on the network. Blue Coat allows for constant monitoring of all web activity. It gives ITSS the ability to block viruses and other potentially harmful applications that would damage the network or slow it considerably. Prime examples of this would be streaming video from sites like You-Tube or CNN and online radio stations. Since ITSS installed this appliance users may have encountered a message stating that access has been blocked and reported.

This message may appear on the entire webpage or a portion of a webpage that is trying to be viewed. Blue Coat is considered to be a key portion for the security and safety of the network.

Inappropriate sites and searches are all recorded and will be reported to the user's chain of command and dealt with accordingly. All employees are reminded that this program allows ITSS to monitor all searches and sites visited, to ensure that equipment is not being used in an inappropriate manner. Users who are unable to access sites which are required to perform assigned duties should contact the Help Desk with the site name and it can be unblocked.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**2008 NABCJ-South Carolina Chapter  
Annual One-Day Training Conference**

**Friday, December 5, 2008**

**Brookland Banquet and Conference Center, West Columbia, SC**

**For More Information, contact Deon Wilform at [DWilform@ppp.state.sc.us](mailto:DWilform@ppp.state.sc.us) or  
Sonya Garland at [SGarland@ppp.state.sc.us](mailto:SGarland@ppp.state.sc.us)**

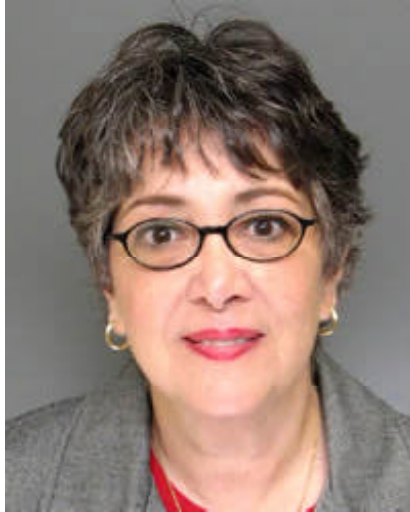


# Staff Promotions

## VICTORIA JAKES

### Compact Administrator — Central Office

Ms. Jakes has been with the Department for 12 years, beginning her career as a Probation and Parole Agent in the Richland County Office. Ms. Jakes joined the Interstate Compact Services section in November 2004 and most recently served as the Deputy Compact Administrator.



## GREG STEWART

### Agent-in-Charge — Oconee County

Mr. Stewart has worked with the Department for more than 19 years. During his tenure, he has held various positions, including: Probation and Parole Agent (Anderson, York & Pickens County Offices), Team Leader (Anderson County), Assistant Agent-In-Charge and Acting Agent-In-Charge (Greenville County). He most recently served as the Assistant Agent-In-Charge of the Greenville County Office.



## Interstate Compact Offender Tracking System (ICOTS)

The Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision (ICAOS) website announces that the organization is "rapidly advancing the electronic database project designated the Interstate Compact Offender Tracking System (ICOTS). Although the rules of the Interstate Compact will not be substantially affected by the implementation of ICOTS, the actual workflow and business processes of the Compact will change." PPP will begin ICOTS training for Department staff in September in an effort to come onboard with the web-based system. The ICAOS website further shares that, "The National Office is providing guidance to states at every stage of this process and looks forward to a successful launch of the ICOTS system. States are encouraged to take advantage of the many ICOTS training resources (presentations, tutorials, documents, and videos) so as to be fully prepared at implementation."



Learn more by visiting [www.interstatecompact.org](http://www.interstatecompact.org) (the ICAOS web site).

## 2008 SC Criminal Justice Training Conference

Sponsored by  
The SC Correctional Association and  
The SC Probation & Parole Association

***New Offenders and New Strategies:  
The Time is Now!***

**November 11 – 14, 2008  
The Ocean Drive Resort**

**North Myrtle Beach**

***Deadline for guaranteed reservations  
at the conference rate is October 20th***

Visit [www.scppa.net](http://www.scppa.net) or  
[www.sccorrectionalassociation.com](http://www.sccorrectionalassociation.com) to download  
Registration Form

Direct questions to:  
Scott Norton, Conference Coordinator  
803-734-9246 or [snorton@ppp.state.sc.us](mailto:snorton@ppp.state.sc.us)





# Back to School Festival in Greenville

Submitted by the Greenville County Office

On August 8<sup>th</sup>, the Greenville County Office was invited to set up a booth at the 107.9 Jamz Tom Joyner Back to School Festival. Staff from the office had the privilege to go out and join the community for this event. Agents Miranda Ware, Kristin Tomaso and Harold Moon talked about their job duties and the mission of the Department to everyone who visited the PPP booth. They were joined by Supervisor Hardy Paschal.

**Agents from Left to Right: Harold Moon, Kristin Tomaso, Miranda Ware at the PPP exhibit booth.**



**Agent Moon with an odd character walking around the Festival—a new PPP Mascot???**



## Unsung Heroes Award

by Jodi Gallman, Director of Community Affairs

This Unsung Heroes Award is intended to recognize those staff members who have volunteered to donate blood to save lives. One pint saves three lives. The average employee does not expect to do anything in the course of their day that would get them labeled a “hero.” Instead they perform their duties with pride and integrity while embracing the moto: Prepare, Provide, Protect.

Here at PPP, several of you perform this duty without hesitation or recognition for such a heroic deed. Here is a salute to you, our first time and repeat donors: Once a Hero, Always a Hero!

Mary Ann Adams  
Jeanette Almers  
Paul Angus  
Renee Barett  
Karen Barker  
Pete O' Boyle  
Donna Brice  
Jose' Bujosa  
Matthew Cain  
Camilla Cheeseboro  
Stacia Clark  
Jeff Cogdill  
Cheryl Cooper  
Beth Corbett  
Autumn Daniel  
Susan Demoya

\*James Donnan  
Tony Dukes  
Terry Estes  
Tommy Evans  
Jodi Gallman  
Sonya Garland  
Samuel Glover  
Tammy Goff  
Loretta Goodwin  
Ashley Graham  
Rhonda Grant  
Catherine Guedalia  
Toya Gunter  
Christian Hines  
Tara Horton  
Paige Mathias

Lisa McGill  
Dawn Mickle  
Brian Miller  
Robert Miller  
Robert Mitchell  
Amise Moultrie  
Erik Murrah  
David O' Berry  
Crystal Owens  
Robert Owens  
Hardy Paschal  
Cassandra Phipps  
Randy Raybon  
Aaron Reed  
Eric Reed  
Jerry Rivers

Missy Rodgers  
Eugene Rodillo  
Jesse Rosier  
Sandra Ryan  
Angela Salley  
Marie Simpson  
Dan Snipes  
Thomas Scott  
Jason Summers  
Brannon Thomas  
Kela Thomas  
Treadwell Zeigler  
Tivona Taylor Rice  
Carol Woodard  
C. W. Weir  
Sandra Young

P.S. You too can be a “Hero”. At each drive, a pint of blood is given. Join the ranks of the above with continued donations. James Donnan of the Charleston County Office is PPP's top donor having given 156 times over the past 20 years. This comes to a total of 19½ gallons of blood donated or 468 lives saved!

# *Spartanburg Residential Center Residents Obtain GED*

Submitted by Monica Lawter, Spartanburg Residential Center Facility Manager

Since 2007, residents of the Spartanburg Residential Center have had the opportunity to attend the Adult Learning Center in downtown Spartanburg. The Adult Learning Center offers Basic Literacy and GED classes free of charge!

Upon admission to the Spartanburg Residential Center, an assessment is completed by the Rehabilitation Counselor to determine each resident's needs. Any resident that does not have a High School Diploma or GED is automatically referred to the Adult Learning Center. Class attendance is mandatory. The residents' first visit to the Adult Learning Center consists of a battery of tests. The results of these tests are used to determine which class the resident should attend – Basic Literacy or GED. Residents, who score below a fifth grade reading level, are placed in Basic Literacy classes and receive one-on-one instruction from a certified tutor. Due to the lack of available tutors, the Spartanburg Residential Center's Rehabilitation Counselor, Tina Williams, took the initiative to become a certified tutor. She provides instruction for these residents when volunteer tutors are unavailable.

All other residents are enrolled into GED classes. These residents receive instruction to prepare them for the GED exam. Residents have the opportunity to learn in classes, small groups, and receive one-on-one instruction if necessary. When a resident has completed a minimum of twelve hours of instruction and passed a "post-test" to prove he can pass the GED Exam, the Adult Learning Center will schedule the resident to take the GED Exam and pay the testing fee of \$70.00. Residents, who complete a minimum of 25 hours of instruction and obtain their GED through the Adult Learning Center, are granted a full scholarship to Spartanburg Community College to further their education. The Spartanburg Residential Center is proud to announce that six residents have successfully obtained their GEDs through the Adult Learning Center since June 2007. These residents will have the opportunity to continue their education at Spartanburg Community College in the future.

There are more successes to come! On August 9, 2008, another resident took the GED Exam and, currently, there are fifteen residents enrolled in the Adult Learning Center's GED program. The Adult Learning Center has proven to be an invaluable asset to the Spartanburg Residential Center program and its residents.



**Offender Rehabilitation Counselor Tina Williams (Spartanburg Residential Center) and Lisa Thornton, Basic Literacy Program Coordinator at the Adult Learning Center**

**Adult Learning Center's Guidance Counselor Kathy Culberson with Director Bill Brasington, Jr.**



## **ANNUAL ENROLLMENT IN OCTOBER**

**During Annual Enrollment, you will have a chance to make changes in your insurance coverage. The following are some of the changes you can make to your insurance coverage:**

- **Change from one Health plan to another offered Health Plan**
- **Increase your Optional Life**
- **Enroll or re-enroll in MoneyPlus Accounts (Dependent Care and Medical Spending)**

**Details about Annual Enrollment options are found in *The Insurance Advantage Newsletter* which was distributed to all employees by October 1<sup>st</sup>.**



## SMOKING 101

Submitted by Julie Blanton, Human Resources Office



Cigarette smoking has been identified as the most important source of preventable morbidity and premature mortality worldwide. Smoking-related diseases claim an estimated 438,000 American lives each year, including those affected indirectly, such as babies born prematurely due to prenatal maternal smoking and victims of "secondhand" exposure to tobacco's carcinogens. Smoking costs the United States over \$167 billion each year in health-care costs including \$92 billion in mortality-related productivity losses and \$75 billion in direct medical expenditures or an average of \$3,702 per adult smoker.

- Cigarette smoke contains over 4,800 chemicals, 69 of which are known to cause cancer. Smoking is directly responsible for approximately 90 percent of lung cancer deaths and approximately 80-90 percent of COPD (emphysema and chronic bronchitis) deaths.
- About 8.6 million people in the U.S. have at least one serious illness caused by smoking. That means that for every person who dies of a smoking-related disease, there are 20 more people who suffer from at least one serious illness associated with smoking.
- Among current smokers, chronic lung disease accounts for 73 percent of smoking-related conditions. Even among smokers who have quit, chronic lung disease accounts for 50 percent of smoking-related conditions.
- In 2005, 23 percent of high school students were current smokers. Over 8 percent of middle school students were current smokers in 2004.
- Secondhand smoke involuntarily inhaled by nonsmokers from other people's cigarettes is classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a known human (Group A) carcinogen, responsible for approximately 3,400 lung cancer deaths and 46,000 (ranging 22,700-69,600) heart disease deaths in adult nonsmokers annually in United States.
- A study found that people who were exposed to smoke in the workplace were 17 percent more likely to develop lung cancer than those who were not exposed (To view the rest of the facts in article, please visit [www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org).)

For more information on smoking, please visit the American Lung Association's website at [www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org) or call the American Lung Association at 1-800-LUNG-USA (1-800-586-4872).

If you would like help quitting tobacco, Employee Insurance Program has a highly successful (and FREE) smoking cessation program. Please contact your Benefits Specialist or look in your 2008 Insurance Benefits Guide for details on the Free and Clear Program.

**Source: American Lung Association. "Smoking 101 Fact Sheet." [www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org)**

## Mark Your Calendars

By Jodi Gallman, Director of Community Affairs

### SEPTEMBER



The United Way Campaign kicked off on September 4<sup>th</sup> with a bang! Your contributions are needed. "Reach out a hand to one and influence the condition of all."

### OCTOBER

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Department joins the million of voices emphasizing that the rights of victims must be protected. Domestic violence is a criminal offense and awareness is needed to make a difference.

### NOVEMBER

The Department will participate in an effort called "Families Helping Families." This program is an effort to reach out to families and particularly to the children in these families, who, because of limited resources, face the prospect of a rather bleak holiday season. Let's look in your area and extend the helping hand.

## INTERESTED IN QUITTING SMOKING?

Submitted by the Administrative Services Division

Call 803-296-CARE to learn more about a FREE smoking cessation class that meets six times for approximately an hour to an hour and a half each. The focus of the classes is to build motivation, learn research-proven techniques to help you quit, and sustain your efforts to remain abstinent from smoking.



For participating in the class, you will receive a FREE prescription for one of two medications (nicotine patches or Wellbutrin) that are helpful stopping smoking agents, or you may pay for a prescription of Chantix, which has proven to be an effective stop smoking medication as well. Research has shown that in the past two years, approximately 90% of participants who complete the classes have completely quit smoking by the end of the group, and the 10% who have not quit have greatly reduced how much they smoke by approximately 50 – 75% (for example, going from 20 a day to 5 – 10 a day). Upon follow-up with participants six months to two years later, approximately 40-50% are still not smoking!

This program is completely **FREE** and is offered through the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, 3209 Colonial Drive, Columbia, near Palmetto Richland Hospital.

Make a positive change in your health by calling 803-296-CARE today.

# Gangs and Guns:

## *Involving Probation and Parole in Firearm Interdiction*

Submitted by the Office of Executive Programs

Department representatives were invited to participate in a national Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)/Anti-Gang Conference held August 26-28, 2008 at the National Advocacy Center in Columbia. The workshop focused on programs and strategies for pretrial, probation, and parole officers that have been effective in supervising high risk firearm offenders and members of security threat groups. Topics presented included increasing awareness of the identities of high risk gun offenders, using unannounced home visits during non-traditional hours, coordinating information sharing, and enforcement activities concerning the most violent offenders within and across agencies.

Through the partnership between the U.S. Attorney's Office and SCDPPPS, South Carolina was selected in 2007 as the first PSN Peer-to-Peer model training site. The state's Project CeaseFire (South Carolina's program funded under the national PSN initiative) has resulted in over 2,000 federal firearms prosecutions since 2001. The 2211 Offender Program

established a protocol insuring South Carolina offenders supervised in the community found in possession of firearms or ammunition are referred to the federal authorities for possible federal prosecution.

Speakers at the workshop included Stacey D. Haynes, Assistant U.S. Attorney's for the District of SC and SC's Project Ceasefire Coordinator; Michelle Metts, Research Associate with the American Probation and Parole Association; Chris Stepp, SCDPPPS Regional Director, and a panel of SCDPPPS Agents including Lisa Boltin, Sharon Sheehy, Jennifer Meador and R.J. Gilbert. Following the workshop, presented twice during this conference, Assistant US Attorney Haynes shared that "we greatly appreciate each of them taking time out of their schedules to do this presentation as they represented our state proudly before attendees from across the nation". She also recognized Arnise Moultrie for a "fantastic" job in coordinating the presentation.

### THE INFORMER

#### South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole & Pardon Services

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**The Honorable Mark Sanford**  
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## Cell Phone Reminders...

1. Text messaging should be used for deployment notifications **ONLY**.
2. Directory Assistance (411) calls are not allowed. Please use other resources as previously instructed.
3. No calls of a personal nature are allowed outside of the emergency/allowable calls included in SCDPPPS Policy 608.
4. All phones should be updated once every 90 days by doing the following:
  - (a) Dial \*228 followed by the SEND key.
  - (b) Listen and press TWO (2) to program your phone.
  - (c) Within 2 minutes, a voice recording will advise you that your programming has been completed.



#### AGENCY MISSION

To **prepare** offenders under our supervision toward becoming productive members of the community;  
to **provide** assistance to the victims of crimes, the courts and the Parole Board; and  
to **protect** public trust and safety.

#### AGENCY MOTTO

**PREPARE, PROVIDE AND PROTECT**